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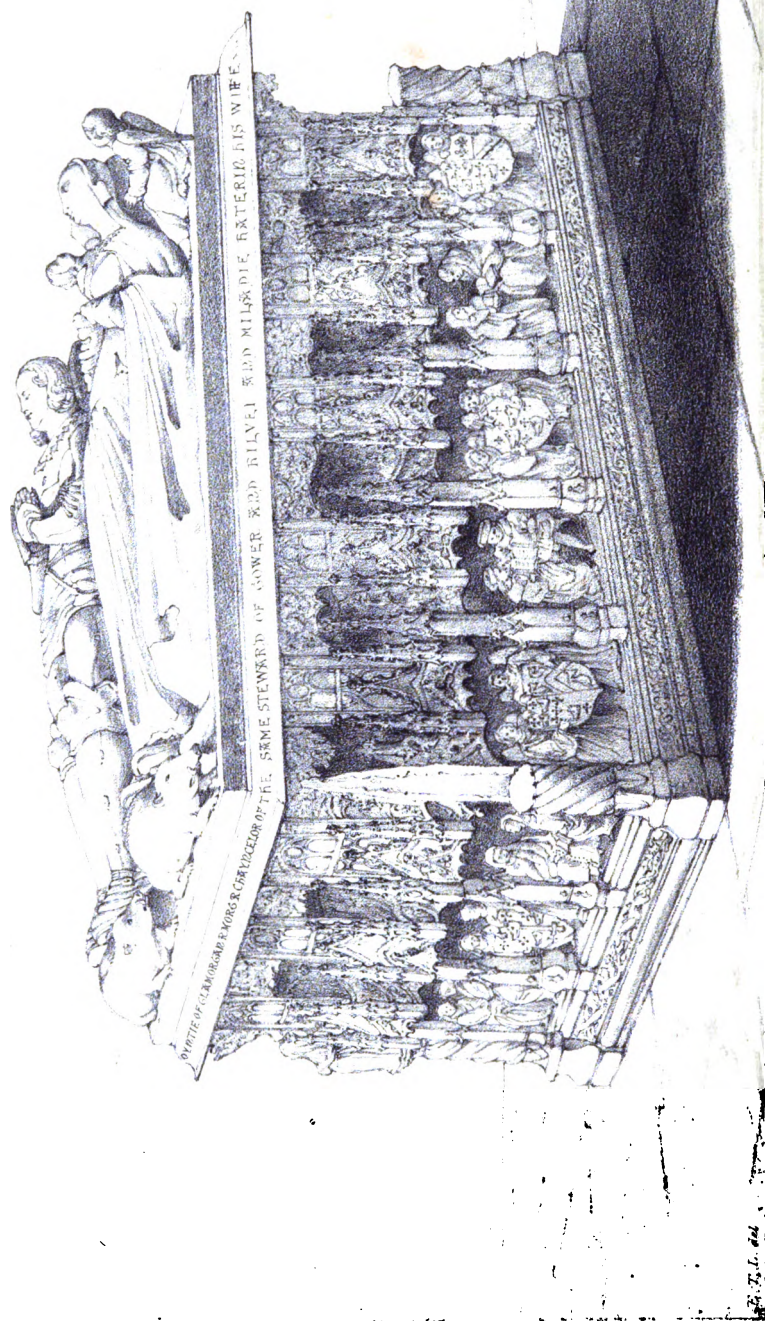


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1280.

Historical Notices of Sir Matthew Cradock, Knt.





TOMB OF SIR MATTHEW CRADOCK, ET & LADY KATHERINE GORDON.
IN SWANSEA CHURCH.

HISTORICAL NOTICES
OF
SIR MATTHEW CRADOCK, KNT.
Of Swansea,

IN THE REIGNS OF HENRY VII. AND VIII.

BY
THE REV. JOHN MONTGOMERY TRAHERNE, M.A. F.R.S. F.S.A.
AND A CORRESPONDING MEMBER OF THE WELSH MSS. SOCIETY.

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IS INSCRIBED,

WITH SENTIMENTS OF GRATITUDE, RESPECT, AND ATTACHMENT,

BY

THE AUTHOR.

P R E F A C E.

THE Publication of the present Work has been delayed in consequence of the anxiety felt by the Author to elucidate the Pedigree of Sir M. Cradock, including that of his representatives the Herberts.

The name of Sir Rice Mansel occurs as an attesting witness to Sir M. Cradock's Will, it was therefore considered that a short memoir of that eminent individual would be acceptable.

The Author takes this opportunity of expressing his thanks to C. Rice Mansel Talbot, Esq. M. P., the descendant of Sir Rice, for permission to consult the MSS. at Penrice Castle, from which has been gleaned much original matter illustrative of the History of Glamorgan.

The Rev. Joseph Hunter, F.S.A., Assistant Keeper of her Majesty's Records, kindly contributed the note on "Pomander," p. 16. It was from this Gentleman that the

Author received the first intimation of the existence of the Stradling MS. Correspondence. The Rev. R. H. Barham, M.A., of St. Paul's, made some inquiries connected with Sir Rice Mansel. The Rev. H. H. Knight supplied the information as to the Abbots of Neath, p. 20, note; and also some elucidation of the Herbert Pedigree.

John Richards, Esq. F.S.A., of Reading, obligingly furnished the extract from Ashmole's Berks, relative to Lady C. Gordon's monument at Fyfield Church.

The Pembroke branch of the family, as well as the late descendants of Sir John Herbert, are not given at length in the annexed Pedigree, as both can be easily ascertained from Collins' Peerage.

Coedriglan, Cardiff, Dec. 10, 1840.

HISTORICAL NOTICES

OF

SIR MATTHEW CRADOCK, KNT.

SIR MATTHEW CRADOCK's descent is traced up to Eion ap Collwyn, whose name is well known in connection with the Conquest of Glamorgan by the Normans under Fitz Hamon, A.D. 1090. He was the eldest son of Richard ap Gwillim, &c. &c. by Jennet, daughter of Jenkin Horton of Swansea, and Jennet Cantelupe of Cantleston, (i. e. Cantelupeston, now Candleston Castle,) Newton, and Cornely in Glamorganshire. Ivor, one of the grandsons of Eion ap Collwyn, is specially named as the ancestor of the Cradocks. I have searched in vain for any data as to their place of abode—it seem sto have been in Cardiff, or its neighbourhood; for though the bulk of Sir Matthew's property was in the west and centre of the County of Glamorgan, he is termed in the Will of his Wife, "Sir Mathew Cradock of Cardiff in Walys." The period of his birth is unknown. Theophilus Jones, the Historian of Breconshire, in a MS. note appended to a transcript by W. Davies of Cringell,* of part of the Golden Grove Pedigree Book, in my possession, states, that in 1489, Sir Matthew married Alice, daughter of Philip Mansel of Oxwich Castle, Glamorganshire. As he could not receive the

* The Editor has very recently collated the transcript with the original document at Golden Grove, and finds it to be correct.—Golden Grove MS. C. p. 521.

honour of knighthood before he had attained his majority, he must at least have been 21 years of age at the period of his marriage. In a Pedigree which has been sent me from the College of Arms, by that eminent antiquary, Mr. Charles George Young, F.S.A., York Herald, Philip Mansel's daughter is named Jane, in this respect differing from Hugh Thomas' MSS. in the British Museum, and other accredited descents. By this lady he had one daughter, Margaret, who married, first, John Malefant. This John (or Edmund, as he is termed in some pedigrees) died without issue in Henry VII.'s time,* and therefore before 1510. She married, secondly, Richard Herbert of Ewias, Knight, and, lastly, Sir William Bawdrip, Knight. The pedigrees which I have consulted, for the most part, omit to notice Margaret's union with Malefant and Bawdrip; but when a more detailed statement is given, Bawdrip is named as her second, and Herbert as her third husband; a mistake, as will be proved in my comments on Sir M. Cradock's Will. According to the Cöttrell MS. [Rees Meyrick's] Herbert is the second husband.

In 1491, Sir Matthew held the office of Steward of Gower, and his name appears together with that of Jasper, Duke of Bedford, and Sir Morgan de Kidwelly, &c. &c. in Letters Patent of Henry the VII. dated 7 July, 1491, "*De subsidio requirendo pro Viagio Franciæ.*" Rymers Fœdera. Hague Edition, 1740. Tom v. p. 31.

In the following year, Sir Morgan de Kidwelly succeeded him as Steward of Gower. Sir Matthew resumed that office in 1497. The period of his first wife's death is unknown, as is also that of his marriage with Lady Katherine Gordon, widow of the celebrated Perkin Warbeck. Perkin was executed at Tyburn, on the 23rd November, 1499.† Welsh‡ authorities pretend that he left issue by this lady, but history is silent on the subject; and had such been the fact, that cautious Monarch Henry VII. would not have treated the widow with such consideration as is shewn by the several entries in the Privy Purse accounts of Henry VII. Vide Sir Harris Nicholas' Col-

* Vide Meyrick's History of Glamorganshire, 1578, first printed by Sir Thomas Phillippes, Bart. p. 42.

† Sir Frederic Madden has fully discussed the question of Perkin's claims in an admirable paper, *Archæologia*, Vol. xxvii. p. 153, where will be found a facsimile of Perkin's autograph, in his assumed character. I learn that Sir Frederic's researches did not extend to the history of Lady Katherine, subsequent to the death of the Impostor. The Rev. J. Forshall, of the British Museum, obligingly made this enquiry for me.

‡ Golden Grove MS. Fed.

lectanea Topographica, p. 85.* The name of the "Lady Katherin Gourdon" appears in a list of the ladies who attended High Mass on Saint Paul's day, 1502, when "were solemnised the 'Fyancells' of Margaret eldest daughter of Henry VII. to James, King of Scotland."—Leland's Collectanea, Vol. iv. p. 260. Lady Catherine survived her husband, and married, thirdly, "James Strangwis, Esq. of Fyfelde, Berks," and, lastly, "Christopher Asshton, Esq. of Fyfelde, Berks," who survived her. Her Will bears date October 12th, 1537. She died between that period and November 5th, 1537, when the Will was proved by her Executor, Richard Smith. She desires to be interred "in the parishe church of Fifeld." As she makes no allusion to her children, the fact that she had no issue by Perkin seems clearly demonstrated.


Yoraeth Vynglwyd, a Welsh Poet, who flourished in the latter portion of the 15th century, composed two Odes relating to Sir Matthew Cradock; one of them is addressed to Rhys ap Sion, and complains of the imprisonment of the Poet at Swansea, by Sir Matthew; the second Cywydd prays for a reconciliation with that individual. These Poems are contained in a MS. Volume written in the time of James I., formerly in the possession of our learned Welsh Lexicographer Walters, and now in that of Mr. J. Johnson of Cowbridge, to whose praise-worthy researches in Glamorganshire Topography I can bear thankful testimony.

I am indebted to our eminent Welsh Antiquary and Bard, Mr. Taliesin Williams, (ab Iolo,) for a Poem addressed to Sir M. Cradock by Rhys Brydydd, a contemporary Poet. He praises Sir Matthew's generous patronage of the Bards, valour, and hospitality. The Poem also contains some religious reflections, mixed with lamentations on the degeneracy of the Bards. I may observe, that Mr. Williams does not mention any ancient MS. or transcript of this production.

In the 5th Volume of the Cambrian Quarterly Magazine, p. 95, there is an account of Thomas ap Ifan ap Rhys, a Welsh Poet, and reputed Prophet. He is said to have been confined in Kenfig Castle for Lollardism, and a Poem is reported to be extant, in which the Poet petitions Sir M. Cradock for his liberation. I venture to suggest, that this may be another version of Yoraeth Vynglwyd's imprisonment, noticed above, especially as Vynglwyd's Poem contains various allusions to Scripture, and to "dying for the faith."

* It is stated that horses and other articles were furnished to Lady Catherine at the King's expense, and in p. 86, mention is made of an annuity granted to her Ladyship.

In 1528, Sir Matthew was party to a deed in his capacity of Seneschal of Kenfig; this document is in the possession of C. R. M. Talbot, Esq. M.P. and from which the following facsimile of the autograph, "Mathyas Cradok," the only one known to exist, has been taken.



The date of Sir Matthew's death does not appear in the inscription on the Tomb in his Chapel, to the north of the chancel of St. Mary's Church, Swansea, which must have been erected in his life time. A fruitless search was made in the Rolls Chapel, by the Rev. Joseph Hunter, F.S.A., for the "Inquisitio post mortem." No Will could be found at Llandaff, or Brecon. It has, however, been recently discovered in the Registry of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury. His death must have occurred between June 6th, 1531, the date of the Codicil, and August 16th, 1531, the period of granting the Probate.

This document shews that Lady Catherine survived him, and that the monument must have been erected in his life time, with the impression that his wife would be interred in the same vault with himself, in Saint Anne's Chapel. The vault was opened on the 10th of February, 1840, when five coffins presented themselves to view. They had no inscriptions. Of these, two of the oldest aspect were attributed by Mr. G. G. Francis of Swansea, to Sir Matthew and Lady Catherine. May not the second coffin be that of Alice, Sir Matthew's first wife?

The Chapel now called the Herbert's Chapel, is the "Sir Matthew Cradock's Chapel," noticed in the Inventory of Church Goods, printed in Mr. Dillwyn's Contributions towards a History of Swansea. That gentleman had conjectured from some entries in the Corporation Books, that the Chapel of Saint Anne was identical with this; a fact which is shewn by the Will. Sir Matthew next mentions the Place House, which he calls, "my new Place at Swainsey." He devises the Farm of Corners Well, and xxvi. kine and a bull, to William Herbert, who was the second son of his grandson Sir G. Herbert. According to the "Cottrell Book," William married Alice, widow of William Matthew of Castell y menychn, Glamorgan. His armorial bearings, with the difference for a second son, occur over the entrance to Cogan Pill

House, near Cardiff. The next material point is the mention of Sir Matthew's "daughter Margaret," to whom he devises estates in reversion for her life, with the injunction "upon" his "blessing," not in any thing to break this his "last Will." He then directs his grandson, "George Herbert," within a month next after his "decease," to make a sure sufficient and lawful state in the law during her life to his wife, Lady Katherine, of his "New Place or Capital Messuage in Swansea."

He charges his lands with "the sum of xx nobles per ann. for the maintaining and repairing of the Chapel of St. Anne, and to find a Priest to sing there for ever" for his "soul," his "wife's soul," her "ancestors souls," and "all Christian Souls," his "ancestor, John Horton, the elder," having founded a chauntry for his "soul, and all Christian souls," charging the support thereof on his estates, of which Sir Matthew became subsequently possessed.

In the Codicil are bequests to the Abbey of Neath, in Glamorgan, and Lantarnam, in Monmouthshire, and to the Grey Friars at Carmarthen and Cardiff. It is remarkable that he left nothing to the Abbey of Margam.

A lease of "Coles" is devised to John and Jenkin Frankelyn. His "niece, Elizabeth Gibon," must have been the issue of Anne, Maud, or Alice, the sisters of Sir Matthew. His brother Thomas Cradock died S. P. A singular bequest is made to G. Herbert, of all his "stuff and implement of Household" which he "left at the Black Friars of Cardiff, as contained and specified in a bill indented of the parcel thereof." He refers to debts paid to William Vaughan for the marriage of Kathryne Herbert, the daughter of Sir George, to Sir Roger Vaughan, Knight. The father and brother of Sir Roger bore the name of William. [Cottrell MS.] He speaks of his daughter Bawdrip. Her second husband, Sir R. Herbert of Ewyas died in 1510. The date of her third marriage is unknown.

The Will was proved at Lambeth by Lady K. Gordon, Executrix, 16th August, 1531.

The Monument, to the memory of Sir Matthew and Lady Catherine, is composed of Bath Oolite, and has suffered severely from neglect. It is an altar Tomb,* 9 feet 1 inch in length, 4 feet 7 inches in breadth, and 3 feet 11½ inches in height, with recumbent figures of Sir Matthew in armour,

* The general character of the Tomb corresponds with that of our distinguished Countryman, and Sir Matthew's contemporary, Sir Rice ap Thomas, which was removed from the Church of the Grey Friars at Carmarthen, on its demolition, to that of St. Peter's, in the same town, and is, I regret to add, in a worse state of preservation. Sir Rice died in 1527.

and of Lady Catherine in the costume of the period. His head reposes on a helmet, the crest of which is a Boar couchant; her pillow is supported by an angel on each side. Their feet rest on two Boars—one of them holds in his mouth a portion of the lady's train. Round the sides of the Tomb are enriched canopies, beneath which are figures of Angels holding shields of arms, alternating with others in monastic habits. Two on the north side appear to represent Mummers, or Morrice dancers. Small shields of arms,* now almost obliterated, were painted round the plinth. The whole of the Tomb appears to have been painted in colours. At the angles were twisted columns, a portion of one only remains, surmounted by a robed figure 12 inches in height.

The shield at the head of the Tomb is *Cradock*, azure, semeé of cross crosslets, 3 Boars' heads coupé argent, impaling *Hay*, argent, an ox yoke fesswise between 3 inescutcheons gules. This Coat must have been inserted out of compliment to Lady Catherine's family. The second Wife of her Father was a Hay, as was also the first Wife of her Grandfather; but as she did not descend from either of these marriages, she had no right to quarter the Arms. Her Grandfather, Alex^r de Seton, Earl of Huntley, bore the same Arms without the Ox yoke; possibly, after all, the Hay Arms may have been used by mistake. The next shield on the south side is, doubtless, *Cradock* impaling *Penrice*, Party per pale indented, argent and gules; Sir Matthew's first wife being descended from that family. The indentations are awkwardly executed, and very unlike any blazoning of the Penrice Arms that I have seen. Mr. Reece of Cardiff, F.S.A., whose extensive acquaintance with Heraldry is well known to his friends, suggested this explanation of the impalement:—

The centre shield to the South is *Cradock*, impaling *Gordon*,

- 1st. Azure, 3 Boars' heads coupé, or. *Gordon*.
- 2nd. Or. 3 Lions' heads erased, gules, langued azure, for the Lordship of *Badenoch*.
- 3rd. Or. 3 Crescents within a double Tressure, gules. *Seton*.
- 4th. Azure, 5 cinquefoils argent. *Frazer*.

* These were first observed by Mr. G. G. Francis, under whose directions the Tomb was carefully cleaned. They are ten in number, six of which are defaced.

The third and fourth quarterings are defaced, but the fourth may be faintly traced on one of the painted shields before mentioned.

The next shield is *Cradock* impaling a bend charged with 3 fleurs de lis between 3 Boar's heads. Nothing can be made of this impalement. I venture to conjecture that it is a fancy melange of *Cradock* and *Einion ap Collwyn*, whose Arms I shall notice presently.

The shield at the foot of the Tomb is 3 Boars' heads, one and two, the upper one transfixd by a sword in pale; it is believed that the transfixd head was the Crest* of Sir Matthew, and I am of opinion that the letters R I G,† discovered by Mr. G. G. Francis, painted on the plinth, to the right of Sir Matthew's helmet, are a portion of the word "Right," which may have been the Cradock Motto. Mr. Francis entertained an idea that the letters are the initials of the Sculptor's name. My thanks are due to him for an accurate drawing of the armorial bearings on the Tomb.

The next shield to the North is *Cradock*, impaling *Mansel*, argent, a chevron between 3 maunches sable. The centre shield is *Cradock*, and the last is *Cradock* impaling a bend, 2 fleurs de lis in chief; the bend is, doubtless, a chevron rebated for some unaccountable reason, and the impalement is intended for *Einion ap Collwyn*'s arms, which are properly sable, a chevron between 3 fleurs de lis argent. It is useless to waste further conjectures on the subject of these bearings, which (to borrow the words of an eminent member of the College of Arms, to whose inspection they were submitted) are "exceedingly puzzling." The inscription which runs entirely round the Tomb is in relief, and in the character intermediate between the black letter and the Roman capitals; the contraction & assumes the form of R, and has puzzled various copyists. Horace Walpole, who first printed the inscription at p. 135 of his "Historic Doubts,"‡ states that it

* It was also a Crest adopted by Gwynne of Glanbrane, Carmarthenshire.

† I had noticed these letters before the dust was removed from the monument, and considered them to be portion of an Arabesque ornament. Mr. Francis has since observed a portion of a letter [thus |] to the right of the G, corroborating my hypothesis.

‡ "After the death of Perkin Warbeck, his widow, the Lady Catherine Gordon, daughter of the Earl of Huntly, from her exquisite beauty, and upon account of her husband, called the White Rose of Scotland, was married to Sir Matthew Cradock, and is buried with him in Herbert's Aisle, in Swansea Church in Wales, where their Tomb is still to be seen, with this inscription in ancient characters,—“Here lies Sir Mathie Cradock Knight Sume time deputie unto the Right Honorabl Chales Erle of Worcets in the Countie of Glamorgan B. Attor. G. R. Chauncelor of the same, Steward of Gower and Kilvei and my Ladie Katerin his wife.” They

had been sent to him by Hans Stanley, who falls into the error of calling Sir Matthew's daughter "Mary" instead of Margaret. Genealogists have strangely varied this lady's name; for in a curious MS. of the 16th century, in the possession of Mrs. Llewellyn, Baglan Hall, Glamorgan, the name is written, "Elizabeth." Mr. Stanley further mistakes in calling Margaret's husband "Sir Edward" instead of Sir Richard Herbert,* and in considering Margaret to be Lady Catherine Gordon's daughter instead of Alice Mansel's.

The Inscription which runs round the Tomb is as follows:—

HERE LIETH SIR MATHIE CRADOK KNIGHT SUMETIME DE-
PUTE UNTO THE RIGHT HONORABLE CHARLES ERLE OF
WORCET IN THE COUNTIE OF GLAMORGAN & MORGAN†
CHAUNCELOR OF THE SAME STEWARD OF GOWER AND
KILVEI, AND MI LADI KATERIN HIS WIFFE.

Sir Matthew resided at the "Place House," of which Mansion "etiam periere ruinæ." It is impossible to say how much of the building lately pulled down was the work of Sir Matthew. His Arms (and those of the Herberts and the Earl of Worcester, according to some accounts,) with the Motto of "Lle Kymmerof,"‡ appeared over the gateway of the Place House, long since removed. I possess a sketch of this inscription among the papers of Mr. Davies of Cringell. The form of the letters closely cor-

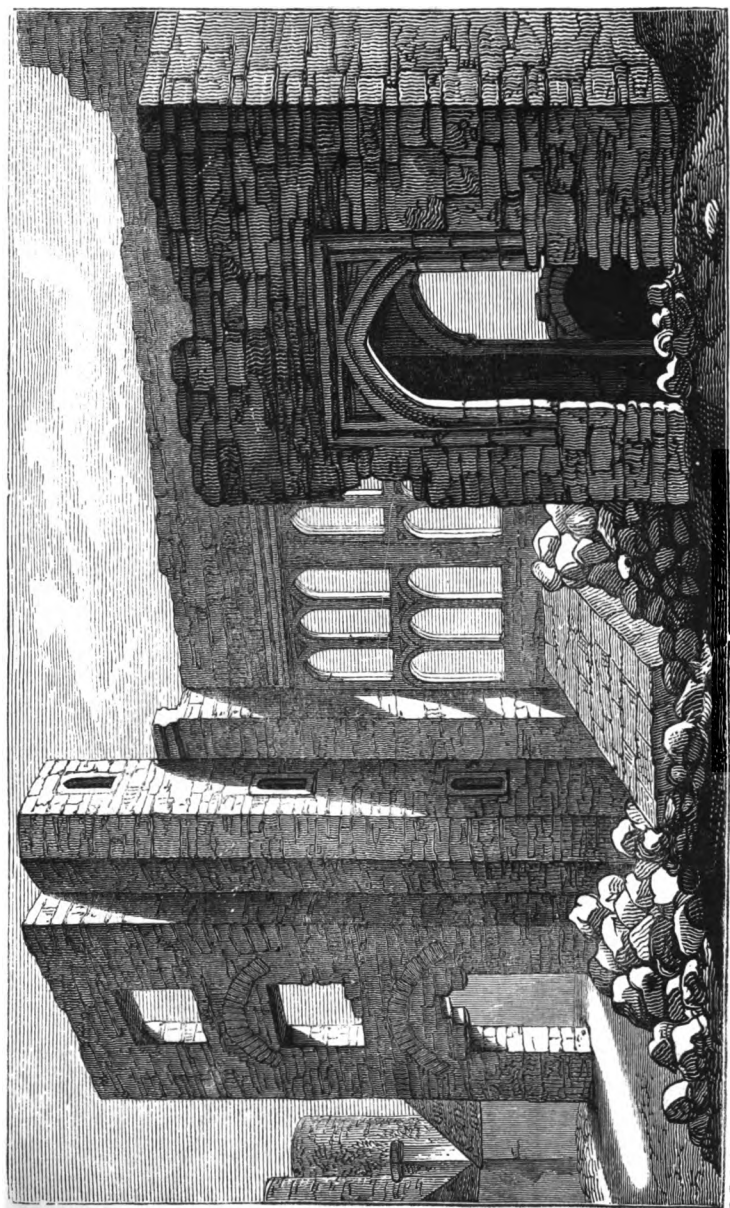
had a daughter, Mary, who was married to Sir Edward Herbert, son of the first Earl of Pembroke, and from that match are descended the Earls of Pembroke and Powis, Hans Stanley, Esq. George Rice, Esq. &c."

* Churchyarde, in his "Worthines of Wales," thus quaintly notices the Tomb of Sir Richard, in Abergavenny Church, p. 59, edition of 1776.

"Upon this Tombe there are
Three Lions and three white bores heads,
The first there, are his owne.
The white bores his wife she gave
As well in Wales is known."

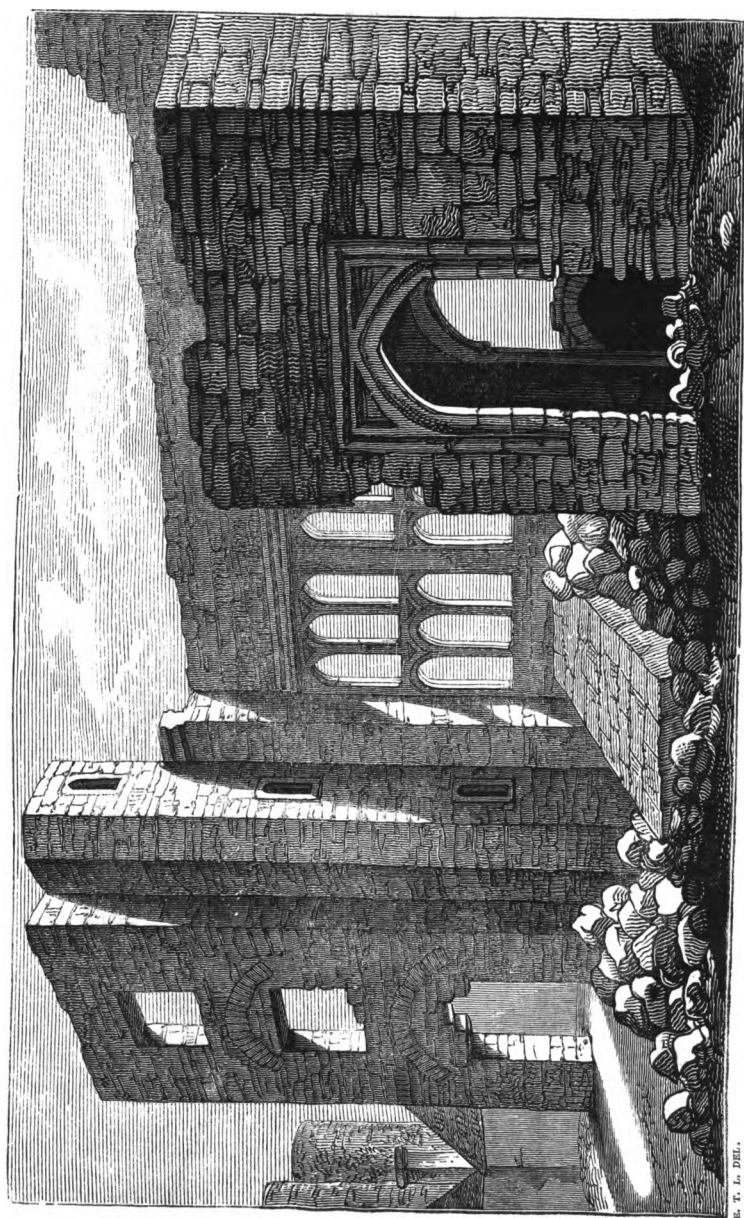
† Morgan is a contraction of Morganwg, the mountain district of Glamorganshire.

‡ Lle Kymmerof, "The Place I take," is doubtless a punning allusion to the name of the House.



W. L. DILL.

RUINS OF THE PLACE HOUSE,
Temple Street, Swansea, during their demolition April 11th, 1840.



RUINS OF THE PLACE HOUSE,
Temple Street, Swansea, during their demolition April 11th, 1840.

responds with those on the Tomb. The circumstance of two mottos belonging to the same person is not unusual. I may instance the Tomb of Sir W. Carent, in Henstridge Church, Somersetshire, the original painting and gilding of which remain uninjured by time.

The armorial bearings of Sir Matthew appear in the old painted Glass in the cloisters of Wilton House, (the Earls of Pembroke and Carnarvon, and the Marquis of Bute being descended from his grandson William, Earl of Pembroke, the elder brother of Sir George Herbert;) here may also be observed the Arms of Cantelupe and Horton. The same Arms are repeated in the elaborate escutcheons on the Monument of Sir William and Sir John Herbert, the grandsons of Sir George, in Cardiff Church.

Sir George Herbert made Swansea his principal abode. Mr. Johnson's MS. contains two Cywyddau by Sion ap Hywel Gwyn and R. Iorwerth, relating to Sir George, praising his warlike exploits, and specially noticing the hospitable "Plas" House, his descent from Horton, &c. There is also an Awdl of a similar character by Sir Richard Lewis. Sir George must have been at least 21 years of age in 1528, otherwise he could not have executed the deed mentioned in p. 8. He died 2nd September, 1570. (Vide Penrice MSS.)

Here I may be allowed to express my regret, that while large sums are annually expended on Eisteddfodau, &c. &c., the Welsh MSS. Society should be cramped in its operations by the scantiness of its funds. The Cymmrodorion Society has distinguished itself of late by printing the Poems of Lewis Glyn Cothi, with Annotations in English. I venture to indulge the hope that the laudable efforts of these Societies now acting in conjunction with each other, will be duly appreciated, and that the aid of additional subscriptions will enable them speedily to publish other productions of our ancient Poets, as they are valuable in throwing a light on various points in the history and manners of Wales in the Middle Ages.

For further particulars relating to Sir George Herbert's descendants, I must refer to my Notes to the "Correspondence of Sir Edward Stradling," with the additional remark that Thomas Herbert of the Place House died young in 1739, when this branch of the family became extinct in the male line. Roger Powell, Esq. of Energlyn, near Caerphilly, was the Heir at Law, but under her husband's Will, Elizabeth Parker, the mother of T. Herbert, had become possessed of the Estates, which devolved on her Representatives, from whom descend Messrs. Calvert Richard Jones, of Swansea, and Edward Herbert Lee, of Dinaspowys, Glamorganshire. Mrs Homfray

of Llandaff House, in the County of Glamorgan, is the present representative of the Herberts and Powells.

I had long been anxious for information as to the history of an individual, of whom so little has hitherto been known. Accordingly, I had recently collected a few notices, with a view of presenting them to the Society of Antiquaries, accompanied by a drawing of the Tomb; but when I heard of Mr. Dillwyn's projected work to be sold for the benefit of the Infirmary at Swansea, I at once decided to add this Memoir as a contribution to so praiseworthy a design. A few weeks' residence in London might have enabled me to make more minute inquiries, so as to throw further light on the subject. But the time allowed me was very short—a fact which must atone for any omissions that may occur to the reader, while I indulge the hope that I have been instrumental in laying before the public, information of some historical importance.

SIR MATTHEW CRADOCK'S WILL,

EXTRACTED FROM THE REGISTRY OF THE PREROGATIVE
COURT OF CANTERBURY.*

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN for as much as there is nothing so certain unto man as death, and nothing so uncertain as the hour and time of death, I SIR MATHIAS CRADOCKE Knight being whole in body and of perfect remembrance, thanks be to Almighty God, the xxii day of January the xx year of the reign of King Henry the viijth† do make my Testament and last Will in manner following : first I do give and bequeath my soul to Almighty God and to his blessed mother Saint Mary and to all the holy company of heaven, my body to be buried in the Chapel of Saint Anne in Swansey in the North side of the Church there, which Chapel I caused to be newly builded and edified. Item, I give and bequeath to the Cathedral Church of Saint David x^s. Item, I give and bequeath to Dame Kateryne my wife all manner beddings with all apparels and appurtenances to the same and all other hangings apparels vessels and all other implements of household whatsoever they be, now being in my New Place at Swainsey or that shall be at the hour of my departing out of this transitory life nothing excepted, all which beddings hangings apparels vessels and implements plainly and particularly are written and contained in a Book signed with my hand remaining in the keeping of my said wife which book I will she have retain and keep to her own use to have and to enjoy all singular the premises to her and to her assigns for evermore. Item I give and bequeath to my said wife v^c‡ marks in money which v^c marks I promised her before my marriage and am bounden to Sir William Essex Knight for the performance of the same, which v^c marks is rehearsed in a Schedule indented the one part signed and sealed with the hand of George Herbert Esquire remaining in the keeping of the said Lady Kateryne, the other part remaining in the keeping of the said George, and she thereof fully contented and paid. Also I give and bequeath

* Mr. F. H. Dyke, of Doctors' Commons, informs me that it was formerly the custom to return the original Will to the Executor; the Transcript sent by him is verbatim from the register. He cannot speak as to its date.

† A. D. 1529.

‡ 500.

to my said Wife a fold or chain of gold valued and estimated at *xl* or better *ij* silver basons with *ij* silver ewers weighing *clxxxxj* oz, *vj* gilt silver bowls with a Cover weighing *clxxxix* oz. *ij* of my best silver salts gilt with a gilt cover weighing *lxij* oz. *dj*,* *xxvj* white silver bowls pounced with a Cover weighing *ccxv* oz *dj*, a nest of silver gilt goblets with their cover weighing *lxxx* oz, *vj* gilt silver spoons weighing *x* oz, a dozen of other silver spoons weighing *xx* oz, *ij* standing cups of silver gilt with their cover weighing *lxxij* oz. *iiij* silver Candlesticks valued by estimation *v' xviij' viij'*. Also I give and bequeath to my said Wife all such jewels as she had of her own the day that she and I were married, that is to say, A Chain of Gold valued and estimated at *xl'* a pair of beads which was a girdle before with a pomander† hanging by them of gold, a small fold or chain of gold estimated at *ix'* a cross of gold with *ix* Diamonds and *ij* pearls, a heart of gold, a floure deluce of Diamonds with *iiij* pearls hanging by him, another hart of gold with a floure de lyce of diamonds in him, and a pearl hanging by him, which was a noch‡ of our Lady, a ruby and a noch of gold with Aungill|| and a saphire a garnet and *iiij* pearls hanging by him, a great pomander of gold, a flat chain for paste§ weighing** *vi' xiiij' iiij'*, *iiij* brooches, a pair of beads of gold valued at *xiiij' vj' viij'* a cross of gold which was before a tablet†† of my said Wifes, with all other her rings pearls and jewels which she hath or shall have at my decease. Also I give and bequeath to my said Wife all such plate as was hers the day of our marriage, that is to say, *ij* great silver pots gilt, *ij* standing silver cups with their covers, a silver goblet gilt with a cover, *ij* silver cruises‡‡ gilt with their covers, a silver salt gilt with his cover, *ij* silver potts parcel gilt, a silver pottage dish with a cover parcel gilt, a silver holy water stock with a cover, and a springill|||| of silver. Also I give and

* *Di*, dimidium—half

† A trinket shaped like an apple, in which perfumes were inclosed, and sometimes worn about the neck as an ornament, when it was enamelled and enriched with precious stones. Pomander chains occur as an article of attire. It is a Shakespearean word. "Ribbon, Glass, Pomander, Brooch, &c." *Winter's Tale*, iv. 3. There is an engraved portrait of Sir Thomas Gresham holding a pomander in his hand.

‡ A brooch, or "ouch of Holy Writ." *Exodus* xxvii. 13. This must have been a relic supposed to have been worn by the Virgin Mary, or it had decorated some image of her.

§ Perhaps the representation of an Angel in relief. || Sic in Orig. ** The value of.

†† "The Queen (Anne Boleyn) then took a tablet of gold that hung by her side, and gave it to Dr. Butts, to be delivered to Wolsey in like manner." Vide *Jesse's Hampton Court*, 1839. p. 33. 'The tablet' mentioned in the Will was, perhaps, a picture of some sacred subject. Vide 'Sir H. Nicolas' *Testamenta Vetusta*, Index rerum p. 871.

‡‡ A small jug—"cruse of oil," unde cruet.

|||| Holy water sprinkler.

bequeath to my said wife my term of years in my Farm called Corners well and xxvi Kine and a Bull with the profits of the same with all other appurtenances belonging to the same, in as ample manner as [if] every thing were herein rehearsed to have and to hold the same to her and to her assigns during the said term if she live so long, she paying to the Lord the rent due and accustomed, and if it fortune my said wife to die before the full years be expired, I will that then William Herbert shall have the same farm and the said xxvi Kine and a bull during the residue of the said years. Also I give and bequeath to my said Wife my Dairy in Gower called Forest Baghan* and xxx Kine and a Bull that shall be upon the same the time of my decease, to have and to hold the premises to her and to her assigns during my term if she live so long and after her decease I will that shall have the residue of the years with the xxx Kine and Bull. Also I give and bequeath to my said Wife all such sheep as I have or shall have within the Lordship of Gower the day of my decease. Also I give and bequeath to my said Wife ij of my best Ambling Horses with all their apparel belonging to them and to every of them. Item I give and bequeath unto my said Wife the residue of the term of years of the Kings part of the manors of Dynas powes and Lanhedarn† with the patent of the same, and my said Wife to pay the rent therein contained and reserved to the King. Also whereas John Bassett, Sir Henry Hopkin, John Frankeleyne and Richard Thomas be my Feoffees of all my lands and tenements which I late purchased of Harry Crompe within the Lordship of Gower, I will that they shall stand and be seized thereof to the use of me during my life and after my decease to the use of William Herbert and of his heirs. Also I will that [the] Feoffees of all my Manor Lands and Tenements and other hereditaments in the Counties of Glamorgan and Morgan, and Penbroke, in the County or Lordship of Gower, or elsewhere in Wales, whereof I or any other person or persons to my use were seized the xiiij day of February the vj‡ year of the reign of our sovereign Lord King Henry the viij, except lands and tenements to the yearly value of xx marks sterling, shall stand and be seized thereof to them and to their heirs to and for the observance and performance of all such promises grants covenants and uses on my part to be observed and performed contained in a pair of Indentures made between the Right Honorable Lord George Nevill§ Knight Lord of Bergevenny on the one part,

* Bychan. † Dinaspowys and Lanedern, near Cardliff. ‡ A. D. 1515. § He died in 1535.

and me the said Sir Mathewe Cradocke by the name of Matthew Cradocke of Cardiff in South Wales Esquire of the other part, bearing date the said xiiij day of February the said vj year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord King Henry the viij, which lands and tenement of xx marks parcel of the said manor lands and tenements whereof I or any other to my use were seized within the said County of Penbroke the said xiiij day of February, I will that my daughter Margaret shall have for term of her life and that my Feoffees immediately after my decease shall stand and be seized thereof to the use of the said Margaret for term of her life, upon condition that she shall not enter nor serve any action or actions in the law to and for any my manors lands and tenements or hereditaments as my heir, other than the said Lands and Tenements of the clear yearly value of xx marks, nor in any thing break this my last Will upon my blessing, and if she do the contrary thereof, then my Will is that my Feoffees and their heirs shall stand seized thereof to the use of the said George Herbert her son and heir apparent and to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten, and after the decease of the said Margaret my mind and will is, that my said Feoffees and their heirs shall stand seized thereof to the use of the said George and of the heirs of his body lawfully begotten according to the said indentures and covenants made between the said Lord of Bergeveny and me. Item, whereas Charles* late Earl of Worcestour, William Essex Knight, Cristofer Mathew† esquire, Thomas Jubbes and Thomas Lichefilde stand and be seized of my Manors of Dinas Powes and Lanhedarn with the appurtenances which I purchased since the said xiiij day of February and that [they] be about the yearly value of L½ marks, I will that the same my Feoffees and their heirs of the same my Manors with the appurtenances shall stand and be seized thereof immediately after my decease to the use of my said Wife during her life natural. Item, my mind and will is, that if George Herbert within one month next after my decease will make a sure sufficient and a lawful state in the law to my said Wife during her life of my said new place or capital Messuage in Swainsey with the appurtenances and of lands and tenements in the County or Lordship of Gower to the clear yearly value of xx' as shall be devised by the learned Counsel

* The ancestor of the Dukes of Beaufort. He was created Earl 1514. Ob. 1528.

† Probably Christopher Matthew, who died in 1500, and to whose memory and that of Elizabeth his wife, there is a handsome monument of alabaster in Llandaff Cathedral. B. Willis' Llandaff Cathedral, p. 26.

of my said Wife in full recompensation contentation and satisfaction as well of her jointure as of her Dower and that my said Wife shall have and enjoy the same during her life without let or interruption of the said George or o his heirs, then my will and mind is that my said feoffees and their heirs of my said Manors of Dinas Powies and Lanhedarn shall stand and be seized thereof immediately after the decease of my said Wife to the use of the said George Herbert and of his heirs in recompensation and satisfaction of the said New Place in Swainsey and of the said Lands and tenements of the yearly value of xx^l, and in case that the said George nor his heirs make not the said state of the said New Place in Swainsey and of the lands and tenements of the yearly value of xx^l and also do not suffer nor permit my said Wife to occupy and to enjoy the same during her life as it is before said, then my mind and will is that my said feoffees of my Manors of Dynas Powes and Lanehedarn shall stand and be seized thereof to the use of my said Wife and of her heirs and assigns for ever. Also whereas I and other at my request and for me be and stand bounden by writing obligatory to the said George Nevill Knight, Lord of Bergevenny for the performance of the said Covenants contained in the said indentures made between the said Lord and me which as far as I can call to remembrance and perceive I have in every thing performed, nevertheless for the more surety of the discharge and indemnity of my Executors and them that be bound with or for me to the said Lord, my will is in case that my Executors or Administrators of my goods or any other that be bounden with or for me to the said Lord their heirs or Executors be vexed troubled or served by the said Lord his Executors or Administrators of his goods upon or by reason of the said writing obligatory, that then my said Executors or they that be bounden for or with me to the said Lord of Bergevenny and their Executors, shall bargain and sell as much of my lands tenements reversions and other hereditaments as shall amount or extend to such sum or sums of money as the said Lord his Executors or Administrators of his goods shall happen to recover against my Executors or against them that be bound for or with me or any of them to the said Lord, and that the same bargain and sale thereof shall stand and be good and sufficient to the intent that with the money thereof coming the said Lord shall be contented and paid of such sums of money as the said Lord shall fortune to recover by reason of the said writing obligatory and thereof to discharge and save harmless my said Executors and they that be bounden with me to the said Lord. Also I will that my Feoffees of all my Messuages Burgages Lands and Tenements which I have within the Town

of Cardiff and the Franches of the same shall stand and be seized thereof to the said use of me during my life and after my decease to the use of George Herbert and of his heirs of his body lawfully begotten. Also I ordain depute and appoint Dame Katherine Cradocke otherwise Dame Kateryne Gordon my Wife to be my sole Executrix of this my present testament and last Will, she to dispose for the wealth of my soul as may be thought by her most convenient. Also, I ordain and depute to be my Overseer of this my last Will. In witness whereof to this my present testament and last Will I have put to my seal and subscribed my name with my own hand these being witness. Lyson Abbot of Nethe,* Sir Rise Maunsell† Knight, George Herbert Esquire, Edward ap Richarde, Thomas Lychefeld, Jankyn Frankelyne, Sir William, Vicayre of Swainsey, John Frankeleyne, John Turbill. Whereas John Horton the elder one of my Ancestors builded the said Chapel of Saint Anne time out of mind, and gave certain Lands and Tenements lying within the town of Swainsey and in the Parish of Swainsey for the finding of a Priest to sing in the said Chapel for his soul and all Christian souls, which lands and tenements I have amongst my lands and tenements there; my will and mind is that George Herbert and his Feoffees shall appoint lands and tenements of the yearly value of xx Nobles for the maintaining and repairing of the said Chapel and to find a priest to sing there for evermore for my soul, my wives soul, my ancestors souls, and all Christian souls—Mathias Cradocke—R. Manxell, George Herbert, Thomas Lychefelde, Robert Mersshe, Jankyn Frankeleyne, Edward Lewes, John Turbyll.

* The Poem addressed by Lewis Morganwg to Abbot "Lelson," and printed in the *Cyfrinach y Belfdd*, is stated to have been written 1490. The Rev. H. H. Knight agrees with me in thinking that the witness to the Will cannot be the same person, as an aged member was generally selected for the office of Abbot. Abbas Leyson Thomas is named in a lease of Coed Sart, near Neath, A.D. 1515; and "Abbas Leysanus" occurs in the appointment of the two Stewards, "Nostros veros et legitimos Seneschallos in toto dominio nostro existente inter Nethe et Tawey." 6 April, 1532. The Lease of Sker, a Grange of Neath Abbey, situate near Margam, 23 Hen. VIII. 8 April, is by the same Abbot. The original of the last named document is now in the possession of the Rev. H. H. Knight, Neath; it purports to be "Between "Lyson Thomas, Abbot of Nithe, the Convent of the same place of the one parte, and Gwen-llan Turbervill, widow, late Wyffe of Watkin Loughor, and Richard Loughor, sone and Heyr "apparent of the sayde Gwenllan, of that other partye." The first dissolution of "Saint Mary de Nith" is dated 30 Jan. 1537, so that in all probability our Leyson was the last Abbot of that Monastery. According to the Golden Grove MS. he married Angharad after the Reformation, and by her had a daughter who "was married in Glastonbury."

† Vide Biographical Sketch of Sir Rice Mansel, at the end of this Memoir.

† A. D. 1531.

THIS CODICIL MADE the xiiij day of June the xxiiij year* of King Henry the viijth and this Codicil to my testament and last Will of me Sir Mathias Cradocke Knight. First, my mind and will is that every thing contained in my testament and last Will shall be observed fulfilled and kept in every thing according to the very intent of my mind therein declared. Item, I do bequeath and give to the Abbot of Nethe xx' towards the sustentation of his house, which xx' I will and my mind is that it shall be paid of the mortgage monies of Saint John's Lands. Item I give to the Abbot of Lantarnam† xx Nobles toward the sustentation of his house, and my Executor to content the same. Item whereas that I have delivered to the Warden of the Grey Friars of Cardiff xij Kine, I do give the said kyne to the said Friars upon condition that the Warden shall put in sureties to my Executors, that he nor his successors shall not sell the said Kine but to suffer them for the finding of the Convent of the same. Item I give to the Grey Friars of Carmarden xx* and my Executor to pay the same. Item I give to William Herbert my Farms of Landogh and Lequithe‡ now in the hands of John Vaghan and John Reding with all the term kine oxen and bulls belonging to the same. Item I give to Thomas Lychefeld my patent with the term which I have upon the grange by Lequith, which patent I have delivered to the said Thomas. Item I give to John Hall my Farm with the Lease upon the same, which Farm now be in the hands of David Morgan with the kine upon the same, with the Farm of the Mill of Dinaspowis with the patent. Item I do give to David Yevan one tenement lying at Mighelstowe§ which I late had of the Right Honorable Henry|| Earl of Worcester which tenement is called William Phe[lip] is tenement with the Copy of the same which Copy I have delivered to the said David. Item I give to John Frankelyn and to Jenkyn Frankeleyne vj years of my Farm and term which I have upon the Coles. Item where [as] that Jankin Robins and his son doth bear me yearly v marks for Lavernorke my mind and will is that my Executor shall have the said v marks until the sum of xx' be fully to her paid and after the said sum of xx' paid, I will that Andrewe shall have the said v marks and also the Lands after the years of Jenkin Robyn and his son expired. Item I give to Matthew Gybon viij kine and a bull of my Dairy of Kibor.** Item I give to

* 1531. † In Monmouthshire. ‡ Both near Cardiff. § Michaelston le Pit, near Cardiff.

|| Succeeded to the title 1526, ob. 1549.

** The name of a Hundred in the Eastern part of Glamorgan.

Elizabeth Gibon my Niece vj kine out of my Dairy of Kybor. Item I give to Thomas ap Ivor viij kine. Item I give to Gitto Somer my horse which he now hath. Item I give to Sir Thomas Seice vj^s viij^d. Item I give to John Turbill iij^s vj^s viij^d. Item I give to Thomas David William xx^s. Item I give to Thomas Coke xx^s. Item I give to David Yevan xx^s. Item I give to Jankin Cornewall xiiij^s iiij^d. Item to Thomas Duy xx^s. Item I give to Thomas Dis x^s. Item my mind and will is that my Executor for the performing of my Will and payment of my debts and bequests shall take and receive all the rents and profits yearly of the Manor of Rawley in Lantwit* in Glamorgan until the time that Sir John Raglan Knight or his heirs hath contented and paid one hundred marks to my said Executor and my feoffees thereof to stand seized to the use aforesaid. Item I give and bequeath to George Herbert all my kine and Cattle at Cogan Pill† with every thing to them belonging. Item I give and bequeath to Jankyn Frankeleyne my Lease and term which I have of the Right Honorable the Earl of Worcester of and upon the Mylles of Swainsey, the same Jankyn paying the rent reserved to the said Earl. Also I give and bequeath to George Herbert all and every piece and parcel of Stuff of implements of household as I left at the Black Friars of Cardiff contained and specified in a bill indented of the parcel thereof. Also my mind and will is that my Feoffees of all my Lordships, Manors, Lands, and Tenements, as well within the County of Glamorgan as in the County of Pembroke, and also in the County or Lordship of Gower and in the Town of Cardiff and Swainsey or elsewhere in Wales, shall stand and be seized of and in the same Lordships, Manors, Lands, and Tenements, after my decease to the use and behoof of George Herbert and of his heirs for ever more, except such Lands and Tenements as I have appointed unto my Wife and to my daughter for term of their lives, which after their deaths my will and mind is that my said Feoffees shall stand and be seized thereof to the use of the said George Herbert and of his heirs for evermore. Also my mind and will is that of my goods and chattels not bequeathed my Will in every thing performed ... iij^s vj^s viij^d paid to my Wife which I owe to her of v^s marks which I have given her by my Will, my debts paid to William Vaghan for the marriage of Katheryne Herbert, and all other my debts buryal and obits paid and discharged, that my daughter Bawdrip shall have

* Lantwit Major, Glamorganshire.

† Near Cardiff.

xx^l and my Executors to pay it, and the residue of all my said goods and chattels moveable and unmoveable, my mind and will is that it shall remain to the said George Herbert to the maintenance and advancement of his children—**MATHIAS CRADOCKE**—George Herbert being present, and Witnesses, Sir William Ap Rice, Vicar of Swainsey; George Herbert Esquire, John Franklyn, Jenkyn Frankelyn, David Sion ap Morgan, John Rede, John Elys, & Hopkin Thomas, with others.

PROBATUM fuit suprascriptum testm &c. Apud Lambith xvj^o die mens's Augusti Anno dñi Millimo quingen^o xxxj* Jramento dne Katherine relictæ et executricis, &c.

LADY KATHERINE GORDON'S WILL,
EXTRACTED FROM THE REGISTRY OF THE PREROGATIVE
COURT OF CANTERBURY.

IN DEI NOÏE AMEN, the xijth day of October, in the year of O^r Lord Godd mⁱ v. xxxvij, I LADY KATHERIN GORDON, Wife of Xpofer Assheton of Fyfelde* in the Countie of Berks, Esquire, some tyme Wife unto James Strangwis late of Fyfelde aforesaide Esquire deceased, and Executrix of the Testament and last Will of the same James Strangwis, and also late Wife unto my dere and welbelovyd husband Sir Mathew Cradock of Cardiff in Wales in the Countie of Glamorgan and Morgan Knight deceased, and Executrix of the Testament and last Will of the saide Sir Mathew ; being seke of bodie and of pfitt and hole mynde, by the loving licence and Jenteil sufferance of my saide most intierlist beloved husband Xpofer Assheton, make my testamēt and last Will in manner and Forme following, —That is to say, First, I bequethe my soule to allmighty Jhū my Redemer and maker, and to his swete mother o^r ladye Saint Mary, And to all the hollie company of hevin, my bodie to be buried in the parishe church† of Fifeld aforesaide in suche place as shal be thought necessarie and mete by the discretion of my said Derely beloved husband. And further I will that my saide husband in whome is my speciall truste, that he will give att my burying and monthes mynde unto five hundreth people of the Impotents and poorest that can be found in the saide County of Berks five hundreth pence thorow whose devote praiers it may please god to mytigate my paines that my soule the sooner may atteigne to the fruicon of his godhede. And further I will and most specially Desire my saide welbelovyd Husband for the true pformance and full executing of the testaments and last Wills of my foresaide late husbands S^r Mathew Cradock Knight and James Strangwis Esquire, And that the Detts of them and every of them the rather may be pformed satisfied and paid ; that my welbelouyd in Christe and loving brother in lawe Richard Smyth to be my Executo of this my present testament and laste Wille, And that my said Excutor as my speciall trust is in hym, levie, receive, and gather by action, suite, or otherwise, all suche

* The village of Fyfield is situate about 4 miles west of Abingdon.

† " On the North side of the Chancel is a large hollow square cut in the wall, arched at the top, and in the middle is a ledge of stone. The pillars on either side, as also the arch, are wrought with ancient Tabernacle Work, being also painted with a deep blue colour, and gilt. This is called the Lady Gorgon's Monument."—Ashmole's Antiquities of Berks, vol. I. p. 96.

money and sumes of money dew or hereafter to be dewe unto my saide late husbundes or any of them, and wth the same money so by hym levied and gatherid, to pay or cause to be paied to every pson and psons all Detts and Dewties to them and every of them dew or to be dew by my saide late husbands S^r Mathew Cradock and James Strangwys (or any of them) or by me the saide Ladye Katherin Gordon vntill the full some so by hym levyied and gatherid be vnto them fully satissfiede content and paied. To whome I geve for his paines taking in this behalf as my trusty belouyd execut^r xli^s sterling. Also I give and beequeth to my Cosyn margarett Keymes suche of my apparell as shalbe thought mete for her by the Discretion of my husband and my saide executo^r. Also I give and bequeth to my trusty and belouyd Friende Robert Woodleff solicitour in all my matters actions and sewts aswell in England as in Wales, my White gelding whiche I hadd of the gift of my Welbelouyd husband Cristofer Asseton. Also I give and bequeth to Phillipa Hulls my Diligent S^unte suche of my apparell as shallbe thought mete for her by the Discretion of my said executo^r. Also I give and bequethe to every of my householde Yomen S^unts over and above their wage, vii^s vii^d St. Also I give vnto Thomas Smythe my s^unte all my interest and terme yett to come in my lands callid Lannock* in the County of Glamorgan and Morgan. And whereas I in my life and my said husband James Strangwys, in the Monasterye of Saint Mary† Over in Southerke by London, founded constituted and ordenyd in the same Monasterye a ppetual Chaunterye wth one preest therein dayly to syng masse for the soules of my Father the Erle of Huntley and Gordon, and my Lady and mother his wife, my soule, my said husbands soule and James Strangwys his father and mother, and all xtēn soulls; I desire my saide husband and my executo^r to have the oversight of the same Chaunterye so that all masscs and other oraysyns may be sung and said according to the very true Fundacōn thereof. Also I give to my sister Alice Smyth a best gowne of black saye the sleeves lyned w^t veluet and a Kertle of blacke worstede. These being witness of this my Will and testament my saide husband Xpofer Assheton—Philippa Hulls—Willi^m Pigott and Elene Raff.

PROBATUM apud London quinto die mensis Novembris Anno Dni m^o†
v^o xxxviiⁱ Juramento Richi Smyth Execut in testō noiat in pntia Xpoferi
Assheton marite defuncte &c. de bene &c. Jurāt.

* Near Cardiff.

† Saint Mary Overy, Southwark.

‡ 1537.

SIR RICE MANSEL.

Sir Rice Mansel was the son of Jenkyn Mansel, of Oxwich Castle, Glamorganshire, by Edith, daughter of Sir George Kyme, Knight. Philip, the father of Jenkyn married Mable or Mabel, daughter of Griffith ap Nicholas of Dinevor, Carmarthenshire, and was a distinguished supporter of the House of Lancaster,—he lost his life in the battle of Mortimer's Cross.* In an Inquisition held at Swansea, 1436, before Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, "*Filius frater et patruus Regum*," Philip is mentioned as the son of John, and grandson of Richard Mansel. By a deed dated Oxwych Castle, 1460, and to which Sir W. Berkeley, Knight, then Seneschal of Gower, "*Gwillim ap Pryse dñō Jōhe Willm, reître de Swansey*," &c. &c. are witnesses, Philip entails his estates on Jenkyn, who attended the celebrated Tournament† said to have been held at Carew Castle, County of Pembroke in 1506, 22 Henry VII., and fully described in the curious life of Sir Rice ap Thomas, published in the *Cambrian Register*, vol. I., p. 124, from which Mr. Fenton makes copious extracts in his *Historical tour in Pembrokeshire*. There seems to be a mistake as to the date of this Tournament. I have not the work at hand and quote from memory; but I recollect an error noticed by the Editor as to the name of a Bishop of Saint David's said to be then present at Carew Castle. This Life of Sir Rice ap Thomas, being now out of print, should be republished, with some explanation as to the history of the MS.

It is highly probable that the Christian name of Rice,‡ or Rhys was given to the infant heir of Jenkyn Mansel in compliment to his relative, Sir Rice ap Thomas, of Dinevor Castle, County of Carmarthen. His first wife was Eleanor, daughter and sole heir of James Bassett, Esq., of Beaupre, County

* 1461.

† He is called "*Jenkyn Mansel the Valiant*." The motto on his shield was "*Perit sine adversario Virtus*."

‡ The ties of family union existed at a subsequent period between the Rices and Mansels. In the Harl. MSS., 6993—35, is an original letter from Sir Edward Mansel, addressed to Mr. Thomas Puckering, Chief Justice of South Wales, dated "*Morgan, maye. 7, 1584*," from which the following is an extract:—"I have been minded for five years to become a suitor for my son-in-law, Walter Rice, only son of my cousin Griffith Rice, of whose soundness in religion I can by experience satisfy you." Sir E. recommends Walter Rice and Mr. Henry Morgan as proper persons for the Commission of the Peace for the County of Carmarthen.

of Glamorgan, by whom he had issue, but all died young. His second wife was Anne, daughter of Sir George Bridges of Coberly, in the County of Gloucester, Knight, by whom he had two daughters, Elizabeth married to William Morgan, of Llantarnam, Monmouthshire, Esq., and Catherine married to William Bassett, of Beaupre in the County of Glamorgan, Esq. with Beaupre for her portion. His third wife was Cicely D'Abridgecourt, daughter of John D'Abridgecourt, County of Hants, Esq. by whom he had Mary, wife of Thomas Southwell, County of Norfolk, Esq. Edward,* who was 28 years old at his father's death; and Anthony, who married the daughter and heiress of John Basset, of Llantrithyd, County of Glamorgan, Esq. It is stated that Sir Rice was so valiant and expert a soldier, as to be sent by Henry VIII. into Ireland with 500 men against the Earl of Kildare, in 1530—1. In the following year he was made Chamberlain of Chester. The Cotton MSS. Vesp. F.iii; fol. 7, orig. 7, contain an original letter from the Princess Mary to Secretary Cromwell, dated, Otford 27th. of June,† (in the Reign of Henry VIII.,) recommending to his "Lawfull favor and goodness, Sir Rice Mauncell this beirer; for the said Sir Rice hath married oon of my gentilwomen‡ whome for her long and acceptable service to me done, I much esteeme and honour. Wherefore if ye wold at this my desyre, extende your goodnes and favour unto him in that behalfe, so that he myghte porceive his said suit th' rather therby to take goode effect, ye theryn should mynestre unto me veraye acceptable pleasor, which I shall hereafter remember accordingly." In 1537 a lease was granted to Sir Rice of the dissolved Abbey of Margam, and on the 22 of June, 1540, he purchased all the property from the Crown. Mention is made in the deeds of "Vinariis"—vineyards,—"*Et totam Ecclesiam Campanile et Cimiterium ejusdem.*" The autograph of Henry VIII. is attached to the Deed of Conveyance. In the year 1557 arose a feud between Sir Rice and his first Cousin once removed or Welsh nephew, Sir G. Herbert. The affray at Oxwich Castle is noticed in the Stradling Correspondence page 16. Collins in his Baronetage, vol. I. page 485, No. 59, fixes

* Philip, the eldest son, who died in *vitâ Patris*, is noticed in his Father's Will. Walters, in his MS. Hist. of the Mansels, makes no mention of him.

† As Cromwell was created Earl of Essex, in April, 1540, this letter (which has been published in Sir Henry Ellis' original letters) must have been written before that year.

‡ Probably Cicely D'Abridgement, vide bequest of a "diamond" in Sir Rice's Will.

the period of Sir Rice's Knighthood, 27 Henry VIII.; but he is called Sir Rice in a deed of purchase of a tenement and garden, "in the Castell Baillie, Cardiff," from Thomas Turbervill, dated, 12 Jan., 1515. This is probably the property noticed in Meyrick's History of Glamorgan.* Collins is again in error as to Sir Rice's Will, of which the date according to him is 10 December, 1588, and the Probate, 10 May, 1589. The date of Sir Rice's death does not appear on his Monument in Margam Church; but we learn from the Inquisitio Post Mortem that he died on the 10 April, 1559, and as he must have been, at least twenty one years of age in 1515, he must have been 75 or more at his decease.

His Will† devises to Mary Foskew, late the wife of his son, Philip‡Mansel, his Manor of Perneys‡ in Com. Glamorg. for her life; and after to his son, Edward Mansel, and his assigns. To his son Anthony, all his lands in the Lordship of Falway,§ in Glamorgan, with other lands in Gloucestershire. To his daughter Mary 600 marks, for her marriage portion. To the Lady Jane,|| wife of his son Edward, an upper habiliment of Goldsmiths' Work, a gown of purple cloth of silver, a gown of green velvet, and a gown of black velvet. To his daughter Catherine Basset, a gown of black damask, and an ale cup with a cover of silver gilt. To his daughter Elizabeth Morgan, a gown of damask, with a like cup. To his daughter Mary, a crimson velvet gown, the second black velvet gown, and a satin gown, that were his wife's, a bed of purple damask, with curtains painted with yellow damask and crimson, and a diamond pointed which Queen Mary gave to his wife, as also his wife's wedding and other jewels. To his son Anthony, a bed of tawny velvet, and a bed of russet and yellow sattin, also a cup with a cover of silver gilt, and his wife's signet ring. He desires his son Edward to give his children a learned education, and appoints him sole Executor. It further appears by the Will that he was an inhabitant of Clerkenwell parish, in London, that he was bountiful to his servants, and charitable to the poor, as the several sums he left to the poor householders of many parishes shew. Sir

* "a faire gate about which stood the houses of the twelve Knights (of Haymo called Pares,) &c.; but now decayed soe that noe ruynes of the greater part now appears saving one old house, which Sir Edward Mansel, Knight, houldeth, sometime the house of the Bassetts."—Page 52.

† This abstract is taken from Collins. The correct date is Dec. 1, 1553.

‡ Penrice, in Gower.

§ Kilvay, Glamorganshire.

|| Lady Jane Somerset, daughter of Henry, Earl of Worcester.—ob. 1597. Æt. 67.

Rice was buried in the church of St. Bartholomew the Less. Oxwich Castle, where he resided previous to the purchase of Margam, is contiguous to the ruins of a much older structure; but few of the large transom windows, doubtless of his insertion, remain. The arms of Mansel, quartered with those of Scurlage and Penrice, adorn the entrance gate. The mansion erected by Sir Rice at Margam was pulled down in the year 1793. There are two pictures of it at Penrice, which represent the state of the building and gardens about the reign of Charles I. Annexed is a Poem in praise of Sir Rice, by Yoraeth Vynglwyd, the same Poet who is mentioned as addressing Sir M. Cradock. It is extant in Mr. Johnson's MS. I am indebted to a friend for a translation of this Composition. He states that the orthography of the Manuscript is extremely corrupt.

A POEM IN PRAISE OF SIR RICE MANSEL.

A COMELY hero bears the praise
Of fame distinguished in our days;
Of form robust and fair is he,
The flower of worth and chivalry.
Mansel! thy spirit firm and true,
Heeds not the loud rebellious crew,
Thy valiant front no fear can shew,
The fearless nought of fear can know.
No treason shall to thee draw nigh,
No hostile aspect meet thine eye;
The unmanly breast shall quit the place,
Retreating from thy dauntless face.

* The following is a Facsimile of the autograph of Sir Rice attached to a deed, 1557. Sir R. always wrote the name Manzell; but agreeable to the loose orthography of the age, it is written Mauncell, Mansell, Maunzell. There is at Penrice Castle a painting on pannel of Sir Rice, his wife Anne, and their daughter Catherine, when a child. There is a tradition in the family that Sir Rice left the castellated mansion at Oxwich in an unfinished state, and removed to Margam, in consequence of the fall of a stone from the new building, at the feet of his wife, which had nearly proved fatal to her, and was deemed to be an unlucky omen.



Yet art thou gentle, kind, and free,
 Emblem of pure Nobility !
 A gem of gallant Tudor's* line,
 In thee the golden graces shine,
 The most adorned and goodly, he
 Shall vainly strive to match with thee.
 Thy Norman blood is heard of more,
 Than ought on England's Saxon shore :
 Gladly thou seest the coming guest,
 With all Sir Rice's generous breast :
 Thy gifts let Beaupre's riches tell,
 Thy grace the feast thou crowns't so well.
 Nine hundred men shall join thy crew,
 And every heart as stout as two,
 Nor shall the year complete its round
 Before the whole is freely found.
 This year too, as the numbers shew,
 In more than common course shall flow ;
 And days to England's realm shall come,
 More full than else in Christendom.
 Two moons perchance shall scarcely fly,
 Ere Paris, Harry† shall defy ;
 He and his lands shall proverbs be,
 For none shall do so much as he.
 To-morrow's swallows' notes may cease,
 But there shall long be lack of peace,
 For ever since his course has run,
 Here is the work that must be done ;
 The planets in their heavenly view
 Proclaim the way of false and true,
 Who heeds not what the stars declare,
 In treason's path is many a snare ;
 Nine falls belong to every feat,
 Nor can we tell in whom they meet,
 Time can explain, if we could look
 Within the volume of his book.

* For Sir Rice's descent from the Tudors through his grandmother, the daughter of Griffith ap Nicholas, see Lewis Glyn Cothi's *Poems*, p. 164, l. 14, and note.

† Henry VIII. invaded France in 1513, and again in 1544.

The summer shall reveal the sign,
The blood of France and Godfrey's line.
Woe ! if thou wait'st for Urien's gore,
A sadder fate shalt thou deplore ;
As a dead branch the enemy
From France to Rice shall quickly be.
On every battle's dawn, thy name
Shall flourish with augmented fame,
Resistless hero in the fight,
Like ancient Cynfarch, gallant Knight.
Cease not, Rice, thy valiant ways,
For I will never cease thy praise ;
Be this Sir Rice's high career,
And thou for Wiltshire shalt appear.
Let champions come from near or far,
Thou shalt be matchless in the war,
In all thy deeds without compare,
No rival can thy glories share.
Thine age in perfect form is cast,
Long may thy brilliant virtues last ;
Nor any take thy life away,
But He who blessed thee with the day.

IORWERTH FYNGLWYD sang this.

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